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South Dakota's 'best' occupations

"What are the best occupations in South Dakota?" The first step in answering such a question is to determine how 'best' is to be defined, for the meaning of 'best' where occupations are concerned appears to be as varied as are occupations themselves. Clearly defining what critera a list of the 'best' occupations is to be based on is very important, since it can drastically affect what occupations appear on the list. In this article, we will look at the ten 'best' occupations in the state, based on different criterion and combinations of criterion. It should be noted that only those occupations with a 1987 employment level of at least 50 in the state were included in these lists.

To some, 'best' is simply a matter of wages. When they ask what the 'best' occupations are, they actually want to know what the highest paying occupations are. Using this criteria, we would obtain the following list of occupations:

South Dakota Occupations With Highest Average Starting Wage

	Average Starting Wage
Physicians and Surgeons	$16.35
Other Health Fractitioners (including podiatrists, chiropractors, etc.)	14.00
Lawyers	13.90
Engineering Teachers	13.50
Health Specialties Teachers	12.75
Electrical Engineers	12.25
Computer Science Teachers	12.25
Mechanical Engineers	12.05
Postmasters	12.00
Securities Sales Agents	12.00

More commonly, however, people asking about the 'best' occupations are more interested in those that will offer the best job prospects. That in itself involves many factors. For example, to some, the best job prospects mean those occupations that are projected to note the greatest employment growth. Using employment growth as a criteria, we obtain the following list (based on the largest actual employment growth from 1987 to 2000).

South Dakota Occupations with Largest Employment Growth

	1987 Employment	2000 Employment	Change in Employment
Retail Salespersons	8,940	10,795	1,855
Registered Nurses	4,840	6,615	1,775
Waiters & Waitresses	11,155	12,905	1,750
Nursing Aides & Orderlies	5,300	6,625	1,325
Janitors & Cleaners	6,790	8,055	1,265
General Managers & Top Executives	7,385	8,570	1,185
Heavy Truck Drivers	6,315	7,500	1,185
General Office Clerks	5,795	6,800	1,005
General Secretaries	7,040	8,020	980
Cashiers	5,530	6,410	880

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But while projected job growth is an important factor in future job prospects of occupations, it is far from the only factor. For one thing, job growth is not the only way that job openings are created. Job openings are also created by the need to replace workers who will leave the labor force. In fact, in many occupations, more job openings are created by this replacement demand than by job growth.

Including both of these components of demand when composing a list of the 'best' occupations based on job openings changes the list considerably, as shown below. The following list, which looks at demand on an annual basis, is based on all job openings, including both jobs created by growth and jobs created by the need to replace workers who will leave the labor force because of retirement, for example.

South Dakota Occupations With Largest Number of Annual Job Openings

	Due to Growth	Due to Replacement	Total*
Farmers	-760	2,280	1,520
Janitors & Cleaners	95	755	850
Retail Salespersons	140	510	650
General Managers & Top Executives	90	355	445
Household Cleaners & Servants	-5	395	385
Waiters & Waitresses	135	245	380
Nursing Aides & Orderlies	100	250	355
General Office Clerks	75	235	315
Heavy Truck Drivers	90	200	290
Bookkeeping & Accounting Clerks	5	285	285

*Totals may not add due to rounding.

While total annual demand is a better measure of job prospects than is either growth demand or replacement demand, even a look at total demand is not a comprehensive look at occupations with the 'best' job prospects. Many other factors are involved as well, such as the pool of workers already available to meet demand.

In an attempt to rate the overall job outlook for occupations as comprehensively as possible, the following criteria were considered: the ratio of projected annual demand to completers of applicable training programs (which are a major component of estimated supply); the ratio of people in those occupations who are currently unemployed to employed workers in those occupations; the ratio of current job openings in those occupations to current applicants in those same occupations; the ratio of annual demand to total employment levels for the occupations; and the ratio of projected annual demand to the total supply of workers estimated to be available to fill that demand each year.

The following is a list of those occupations which are expected to have the most favorable overall job outlook through the year 2000. As you can see, only three of those occupations which were on the list of 'best' occupations based on annual job openings remain on the list when the overall job outlook is considered.

South Dakota Occupations With Most Favorable Job Outlook

Nursing Aides & Orderlies
Gardeners & Groundskeepers
Home Health Aides
Social Welfare Service Aides
Nursery Workers
Forestry & Conservation Workers
Retail Salespersons
Household Cleaners & Servants
Cashiers

In some cases, a person may base the definition of 'best' occupations on additional criteria as well. For example, a person may want to know what occupations requiring college-level training will offer the 'best' possibilities. The following list is those occupations requiring

a bachelor's degree or more extensive training which will have the most favorable job outlook to the year 2000.

South Dakota Occupations
Requiring Minimum of Bachelor's Degree With Best Job Outlook

Personnel Specialists
Cost Estimators
Clerical First Line Supervisors
Vocational Education Teachers
Optometrists
Architects
Public Administration Executives
Veterinarians
Dentists
Occupational Therapists

'The' list of 'best' occupations can differ substantially as shown in this article--depending upon how 'best' is defined. And the factors included in this article's look at 'best' occupations are just some of the more objective, measurable factors that can be considered. The 'best' occupation to many also includes more subjective factors such as duties and working conditions, job satisfaction, work schedules, job status and job security. Just as beauty lies in the eye of the beholder, so the definition of 'best' where occupational choice is considered lies with the one making the choice. While there is no right or wrong way of defining 'best' for the purpose of ranking occupations in a list, it is important that those using such a list are aware of how 'best' was defined. If you need information on the 'best' occupations in South Dakota, give us a call at the Labor Market Information Center (605-622-2314).

South Dakota's Labor Market in June

In June 1990, nonfarm wage and salaried employment in South Dakota was 288,100. This is an increase of 5,800 jobs (or 2.1 percent) from year-ago employment levels.

Government noted the largest employment gain from year-ago employment levels. Most of the increase in federal government was due to the continuing efforts of census workers. Impacting state government employment levels was the Summer Youth Program, with participating youth beginning work and showing up on payroll records earlier this year than they did last year. Approximately 1,500 youth were working this June, compared to 900 in June 1989.

Retail trade led all private industries with an employment gain of 1,800 jobs, which was spread throughout most divisions. All divisions in the services industry added jobs from year-ago employment levels.

Month-to-Month Employment Changes

Nonfarm employment continued its upward month-to-month trend in June, noting an increase of 5,200 jobs from May. The very seasonal retail trade industry led the private industries in job growth, noting an increase of 1,400 over the month in such establishments as gift, novelty, and souvenir shops, and eating and drinking establishments.

The services industry posted a 1,300 job gain over the month. The tourism-related job gain in this industry was offset somewhat by a 1,000 job decrease in the educational services sector as the employment for the majority of support staff such as cooks and teacher aides ended for the year when schools closed for the summer .

State and local education in government also noted traditional declines as the school year came to a close, and offset the addition to state government payrolls of almost 1,500 youth who are working for private establishments and state agencies participating in the Summer Youth Program.

South Dakota's labor force was 365,700 in June, with 351,400 employed and 14,400 unemployed. The unemployment rate was 3.9 percent, an increase of 0.4 percent from May to June, and a decrease of 0.5 percent from a year ago.

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	June 1990 (1)				June 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	126,307,000	119,605,000	6,702,000	5.3(3)	125,569,000	118,719,000	6,850,000	5.5
South Dakota	365,700	351,400	14,400	3.9	371,000	354,700	16,300	4.4
Sioux Falls MSA	73,797	71,435	2,362	3.2	74,198	71,641	2,557	3.4
Rapid City MSA	40,061	38,751	1,310	3.3	41,046	39,459	1,587	3.9
Aurora	1,521	1,504	17	1.1	1,515	1,500	15	1.0
Beadle	9,187	8,828	359	3.9	9,517	9,037	480	5.0
Bennett	1,695	1,591	104	6.1	1,664	1,588	76	4.6
Bon Homme	3,618	3,593	25	.7	3,645	3,578	67	1.8
Brookings	14,986	14,175	811	5.4	15,188	14,165	1,023	6.7
Brown	19,684	18,535	1,149	5.8	20,780	19,164	1,616	7.8
Brule	2,869	2,829	40	1.4	2,885	2,834	51	1.8
Buffalo	498	430	68	13.7	517	431	86	16.6
Butte	3,476	3,375	101	2.9	3,527	3,428	99	2.8
Campbell	1,139	1,118	21	1.8	1,149	1,141	8	.7
Charles Mix	4,033	3,851	182	4.5	4,241	3,894	347	8.2
Clark	2,060	2,005	55	2.7	2,082	1,987	95	4.6
Clay	7,021	6,689	332	4.7	7,084	6,743	341	4.8
Codington	12,412	11,842	570	4.6	12,504	12,037	467	3.7
Corson	1,647	1,250	397	24.1	1,676	1,335	341	20.3
Custer	4,582	4,519	63	1.4	4,480	4,394	86	1.9
Davison	9,449	9,303	146	1.5	9,540	9,416	124	1.3
Day	3,403	3,270	133	3.9	3,635	3,382	253	7.0
Deuel	2,358	2,233	125	5.3	2,360	2,309	51	2.2
Dewey	2,328	2,062	266	11.4	2,369	2,049	320	13.5
Douglas	1,782	1,736	46	2.6	1,854	1,772	82	4.4
Edmunds	2,138	2,089	49	2.3	2,240	2,166	74	3.3
Fall River	3,542	3,394	148	4.2	3,769	3,521	248	6.6
Faulk	1,217	1,206	11	.9	1,273	1,258	15	1.2
Grant	4,379	4,223	156	3.6	4,410	4,298	112	2.5
Gregory	2,388	2,337	51	2.1	2,508	2,451	57	2.3
Haakon	1,226	1,199	27	2.2	1,261	1,206	55	4.4
Hamlin	2,666	2,533	133	5.0	2,556	2,484	72	2.8
Hand	2,023	1,989	34	1.7	2,052	2,025	27	1.3
Hanson	1,599	1,569	30	1.9	1,659	1,600	59	3.6
Harding	834	811	23	2.8	850	842	8	.9
Hughes	8,292	8,106	186	2.2	8,562	8,318	244	2.8
Hutchinson	4,393	4,308	85	1.9	4,475	4,368	107	2.4
Hyde	885	868	17	1.9	953	909	44	4.6
Jackson	1,910	1,836	74	3.9	1,857	1,773	84	4.5

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	June 1990 (1)				June 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Jerauld	1,204	1,149	55	4.6	1,223	1,177	46	3.8
Jones	753	728	25	3.3	747	736	11	1.5
Kingsbury	2,873	2,799	74	2.6	2,966	2,865	101	3.4
Lake	5,286	4,946	340	6.4	5,452	5,018	434	8.0
Lawrence	12,586	12,056	530	4.2	11,759	11,229	530	4.5
Lincoln	6,987	6,835	152	2.2	7,443	7,235	208	2.8
Lyman	1,638	1,545	93	5.7	1,654	1,536	118	7.1
McCook	3,034	2,958	76	2.5	3,119	2,986	133	4.3
McPherson	1,636	1,600	36	2.2	1,637	1,593	44	2.7
Marshall	2,356	2,278	78	3.3	2,577	2,343	234	9.1
Meade	9,046	8,710	336	3.7	9,226	8,877	349	3.8
Mellette	853	800	53	6.2	927	851	76	8.2
Miner	1,914	1,857	57	3.0	1,739	1,667	72	4.1
Minnehaha	73,797	71,435	2,362	3.2	74,198	71,641	2,557	3.4
Moody	3,779	3,219	560	14.8	3,700	3,311	389	10.5
Pennington	40,061	38,751	1,310	3.3	41,046	39,459	1,587	3.9
Perkins	2,593	2,542	51	2.0	2,527	2,493	34	1.3
Potter	1,579	1,526	53	3.4	1,576	1,547	29	1.8
Roberts	4,728	4,515	213	4.5	4,767	4,565	202	4.2
Sanborn	1,116	1,086	30	2.7	1,116	1,108	8	.7
Shannon	2,389	1,939	450	18.8	2,448	1,932	516	21.1
Spink	3,647	3,543	104	2.9	3,753	3,671	82	2.2
Stanley	1,429	1,389	40	2.8	1,514	1,468	46	3.0
Sully	873	852	21	2.4	868	857	11	1.3
Todd	2,995	2,727	268	8.9	2,903	2,739	164	5.6
Tripp	3,438	3,362	76	2.2	3,586	3,449	137	3.8
Turner	4,740	4,617	123	2.6	4,612	4,524	88	1.9
Union	6,210	5,946	264	4.3	5,965	5,654	311	5.2
Walworth	3,022	2,937	85	2.8	3,141	2,998	143	4.6
Yankton	10,669	10,409	260	2.4	10,921	10,658	263	2.4
Ziebach	1,253	1,109	144	11.5	1,218	1,085	133	10.9

(1) Preliminary data subject to revision.
(2) Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
(3) The seasonally-adjusted rates which were announced by the national government were 5.2 and 5.3. The data in this table are not seasonally-adjusted.

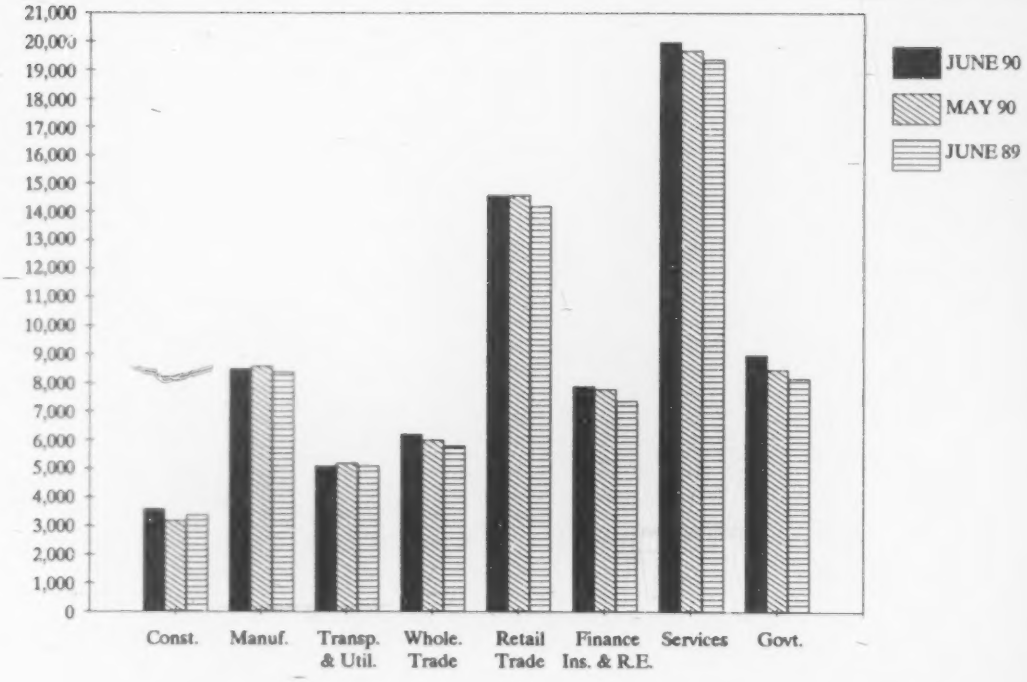
SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	288,100	282,900	282,300	1.8	2.1
TOTAL PRIVATE	233,900	219,000	219,700	6.8	6.5
GOODS PRODUCING	47,600	45,800	46,800	3.9	1.7
MINING	2,900	2,800	2,800	3.6	3.6
CONSTRUCTION	11,900	10,800	11,500	10.2	3.5
MANUFACTURING	32,800	32,200	32,500	1.9	.9
Durable Goods	19,000	18,200	18,600	4.4	2.2
Fabricated Metals & Machinery	11,000	10,700	11,000	2.8	.0
Nondurable Goods	13,800	14,000	13,900	-1.4	-.7
Food & Kindred Products	7,300	7,600	7,300	-3.9	.0
Printing & Publishing	3,000	3,000	3,000	.0	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	240,500	237,100	235,500	1.4	2.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13,400	13,400	13,600	.0	-1.5
Transportation	7,900	8,000	8,000	-1.3	-1.3
Communication	3,200	3,100	3,200	3.2	.0
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,400	2,300	2,400	4.3	.0
TRADE	76,600	75,000	75,000	2.1	2.1
Wholesale Trade	18,600	18,400	18,800	1.1	-1.1
Durable Goods	8,500	8,300	8,600	2.4	-1.2
Nondurable Goods	10,100	10,100	10,200	.0	-1.0
Retail Trade	58,000	56,600	56,200	2.5	3.2
General Merchandise/Apparel	9,500	9,300	9,400	2.2	1.1
Food Stores	8,700	8,700	8,200	.0	6.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	16,500	16,300	15,800	1.2	4.4
Finance	10,800	10,900	10,300	-.9	4.9
Depository Institutions	6,000	6,000	5,800	.0	3.4
Nondepository Institutions	4,100	4,200	3,900	-2.4	5.1
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,000	3,900	3,800	2.6	5.3
SERVICES	69,800	68,500	68,500	1.9	1.9
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	9,700	8,500	9,700	14.1	.0
Personal and Business	8,300	8,100	8,200	2.5	1.2
Medical and Health Services	26,300	25,900	26,000	1.5	1.2
Hospitals	12,000	11,900	11,800	.8	1.7
Health Services, other than Hospitals	14,300	14,000	14,200	2.1	.7
Educational Services	4,500	5,500	4,200	-18.2	7.1
Social Services	5,300	5,300	4,800	.0	10.4
Membership Organizations	8,200	8,100	8,100	1.2	1.2
GOVERNMENT	64,200	63,900	62,600	.5	2.6
Federal	11,800	11,700	11,400	.9	3.5
State	16,900	17,400	16,100	-2.9	5.0
State Education	6,200	8,500	5,900	-27.1	5.1
Local	35,500	34,800	35,100	2.0	1.1
Local Education	19,800	20,500	19,600	-3.4	1.0

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

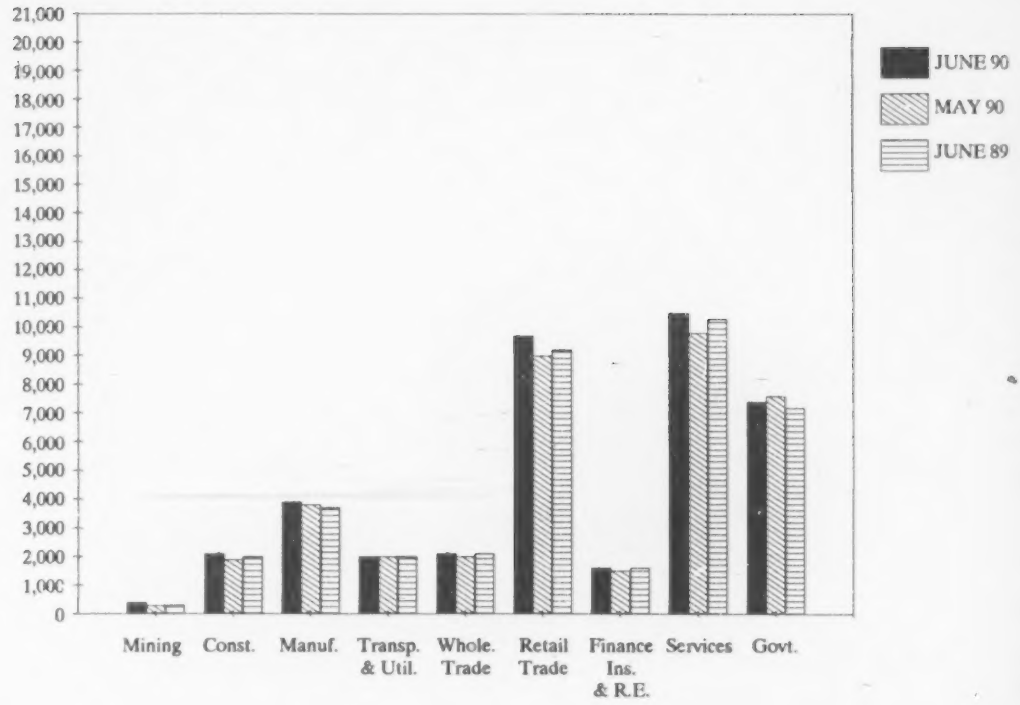


	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	75,000	73,700	71,900	1.8	4.3
GOODS PRODUCING	12,200	11,900	11,800	2.5	3.4
*MINING					
CONSTRUCTION	3,600	3,200	3,400	12.5	5.9
MANUFACTURING	8,500	8,600	8,400	-1.2	1.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	62,800	61,800	60,100	1.6	4.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5,100	5,200	5,100	-1.9	.0
TRADE	20,800	20,600	20,000	1.0	4.0
Wholesale	6,200	6,000	5,800	3.3	6.9
Retail	14,600	14,600	14,200	.0	2.8
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	7,900	7,800	7,400	1.3	6.8
SERVICES	20,000	19,700	19,400	1.5	3.1
GOVERNMENT	9,000	8,500	8,200	5.9	9.8

*Mining employment not published, employment less than 100.

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)



	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	39,700	37,900	38,400	4.7	3.4
GOODS PRODUCING	6,400	6,000	6,000	6.7	6.7
MINING	400	300	300	33.3	33.3
CONSTRUCTION	2,100	1,900	2,000	10.5	5.0
MANUFACTURING	3,900	3,800	3,700	2.6	5.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	33,300	31,900	32,400	4.4	2.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2,000	2,000	2,000	.0	.0
TRADE	11,800	11,000	11,300	7.3	4.4
Wholesale	2,100	2,000	2,100	5.0	.0
Retail	9,700	9,000	9,200	7.8	5.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	1,600	1,500	1,600	6.7	.0
SERVICES	10,500	9,800	10,300	7.1	1.9
GOVERNMENT	7,400	7,600	7,200	-2.6	2.8

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: The figures on pages 6, 7 and 8 include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in South Dakota

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989
Total Private	187,600	182,200	183,800	34.0	32.8	33.4
Mining	2,400	2,300	2,300	42.9	43.7	41.8
Construction	9,700	8,600	9,400	44.0	40.9	42.5
Manufacturing	24,800	24,400	24,800	41.7	40.2	42.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,300	11,300	11,300	38.2	37.7	38.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	67,300	65,800	65,500	31.9	30.7	31.0
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,400	12,300	11,700	35.4	35.1	35.6
Services	59,700	57,500	58,800	30.2	29.1	29.3

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989
Total Private	263.50	255.51	250.50	7.75	7.79	7.50
Mining	516.52	527.46	507.03	12.04	12.07	12.13
Construction	423.72	405.73	394.83	9.63	9.92	9.29
Manufacturing	349.45	337.68	342.72	8.38	8.40	8.16
Transportation & Public Utilities	427.08	420.73	418.06	11.18	11.16	10.83
Wholesale & Retail Trade	205.76	198.02	190.03	6.45	6.45	6.13
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	281.08	272.73	282.66	6.94	7.77	7.94
Services	222.88	217.96	208.03	7.38	7.49	7.10

Hours and Earnings of Manufacturing Production Workers in MSAs

	Number of Manufacturing Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	June. 1990	May 1990	June 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	5,700	5,900	6,100	46.8	44.0	45.1
Rapid City MSA	3,000	2,900	2,800	43.7	43.7	40.7

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	403.88	382.36	373.43	8.63	8.69	8.28
Rapid City MSA	402.48	402.48	334.96	9.21	9.21	8.23

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989
Sex, Total	1,498	1,480	1,771
Male	608	750	716
Female	890	730	1,055
Race, Total	1,498	1,480	1,771
White	1,193	1,325	1,462
Nonwhite	305	155	309
Age, Total	1,498	1,480	1,771
Under 45	1,062	1,044	1,272
Over 45	436	436	499
[2]Industry, Total	1,498	1,480	1,771
Mining	25	35	13
Construction	90	178	116
Manufacturing	423	515	569
Transportation & Public Utilities	65	49	81
Trade	268	268	356
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	57	79	35
Services	486	295	510
Government	84	61	91
[2]Occupation	1,498	1,480	1,771
Professional & Managerial	307	244	355
Clerical and Sales	377	290	387
Services	192	157	204
Processing	44	56	32
Machine Trade	48	98	55
Benchwork	268	271	401
Structural Work	133	238	182
Other	129	126	155
Duration of Current Unemployment			
Total	1,498	1,480	1,771
1-2 Weeks	302	235	370
3-4 Weeks	224	158	246
5-14 Weeks	565	581	676
15 Weeks & Over	407	506	479

[1]The insured unemployed are those persons who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2]Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,296	1,279	1,404	1.3	-7.7
B. Weeks Compensated	6,161	7,578	7,213	-18.7	-14.6
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$546,670	$636,584	$757,718	-14.1	-27.9
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Bal.	$44,675,555	$45,175,557	$42,902,370	-1.1	4.1
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (New and Renewal)	4,127	7,240	6,825	-43.0	-39.5
F. Nonfarm Placements	6,593	5,827	7,179	13.1	-8.2
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	14,931	13,725	14,158	8.8	5.5

Selected Labor Department Activities (Continued)

	June 1990
H. Unemployment Insurance Savings	$72,106

The data above and in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system.

A. Initial Claims - The total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - The total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - The total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - The fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (New and Renewals) - The total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - A count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - A count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

H. Unemployment Insurance Savings - Estimated dollars saved due to placement of Unemployment Insurance claimants in jobs by Job Service.

From the Division of Labor and Management

Why do we have worker's compensation? Prior to the onset of the Industrial Revolution it was not an issue. During the Nineteenth Century industry grew and so did job-related accidents. Before the advent of worker's compensation the remedy for an injured employee was in terms of a lawsuit. The employee was required to show some kind of fault on the part of the employer such as negligence. Employees suffering comparatively minor injuries were overly compensated, while in some cases employees that suffered serious injuries received no compensation at all. The predictability of cost was also a major problem for employers. Defending such lawsuits were costly, and since there was no limit to the amount of an award, a large verdict could bankrupt an employer.

Germany was one of the first countries to adopt the worker's compensation system. Its scheme provided for contribution from the employee. The basic concept made its debut in the United States during the early Twentieth Century. Unlike the German system, no contribution was required from the employee. The entire cost was placed upon the employer. The American system was based on the cost of producing a product or service. Recovery under worker's compensation was limited to a statutory schedule, and the projection of these costs were to be included with the cost of the product or service.

Early in the Twentieth Century, worker's compensation was held to be unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. The basis of the holding was a deprivation of property on the part of the employer without due process of law. In other words, the employer was liable for the loss without a showing of any fault on its part. Ultimately, in 1917, the U. S. Supreme Court found worker's compensation to be constitutional. It recognized that there was a quid pro quo which was at the heart of the American worker's compensation system. This was the trade-off between employers and their employees in which workers were assured a definite recovery at the employer's expense without regard to fault, and employers were shielded from the unlimited and unpredictable liability which could exist in a lawsuit.

With the establishment of the constitutionality of worker's compensation, all states adopted one form or another of the concept. There are variations in the form of benefits, but the basic concept exists in all states.

The best management tool for worker's compensation is, and always has been, safety in the work place. If you have questions concerning worker's compensation, you should feel free to contact the Division of Labor and Management at 773-3681.

South Dakota
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Selected National Economic Indicators

	June 1990	May 1990	June 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	129.9	129.2	123.8	0.5	4.9
Industrial Production Index[2]	109.8	109.3	108.4	0.5	1.3
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$147,824	$147,040	$144,415	0.5	2.4
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,177	1,205	1,414	-2.3	-16.8
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	10.00	10.00	11.50	0.00	-13.04

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.
[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.
[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.
[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.
[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.